IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (Case No. 99,841)

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In re Application of:

Choong et al.

Serial No.:

09/439,889

Filed:

11/12/99

For: MACROPOROUS MEDIA FOR BIOLOGICAL

APPLICATION

Asst. Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

In regard to the above identified application.

1. We are transmitting herewith the attached:

a. / Information Disclosure Statement

o/ Form PTO-1449;

Copy of nine(9) cited references;

A. Return Receipt Postcard.

2. With respect to additional fees, no additional fee is required.

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- 3. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2490.
- 4. CERTIFICATE OF MATLING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described in paragraph 1 hereinabove, are being mailed via US Postal Service, with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C., on this 28th day of April, 2000.

Rv

John J. McDonnell Reg. No. 26,949

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

MAY 0.9 2000

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (Case No. 99,841)

In the Application of:

Choong et al.

Serial No.: 09/439,889

Filing Date: November 12, 1999

For: Macroporous Media for

Biological Application

Examiner: Unassigned

Group Art Unit: 1643

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box DD Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Section 1.97 - 1.99, the Applicants wish to make the following references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 of record in the above-identified application. This Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with the continuing duty of candor as set forth in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56.

- 1 Khrapko, et al., U.S. Patent 5,552,270, issued September 3, 1996.
- 2 Chetverin, et al., U.S. Patent 5,616,478, issued April 1, 1997.
- 3 Conrad, et al., U.S. Patent 5,736,257, issued April 7, 1998.

- 4 Ershov, et al., U.S. Patent 5,741,700, issued April 21, 1998.
- Guschin, D., Yershov, G., Zaslavsky, A., Gemmel, A., Shick, V., Proudnikov, D., Arenkov, P., and Mirzabekov, A. 1997. "Manual manufacturing of oligonucleotide, DNA, and protein microchips." *Anal. Biochem.*, vol. 250, No. 2, pp. 203-211.
- Righetti, P., Brost, B., and Snyder, R. 1981. "On the limiting pore size of hydrophilic gels for electrophoresis and isoelectric focusing." *J. Biochem. Biophys. Methods*, vol. 4, pp. 347-63.
- Blank, Z., and Reimschuessel, A. 1974. "Structural studies of organic gels by SEM."

 J. Mater. Sci., vol. 9, pp. 1815-1822.
- Rouchel, R., and Bager, M. 1975. "Scanning electron microscopic observations of polyacrylamide gels." *Anal. Biochem.*, vol. 68, pp. 415-428.
- Rouchel, R. 1978. "Transmission-electron microscopic observations of freeze-etched polyacrylamide gels." *J. Chromatography*, vol. 166, p. 563-575.

Copies of the references cited on the Form PTO-1449 are enclosed.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the references in their entirety and to so indicate by initialing the appropriate box on the Form PTO-1449. By submission of the references on the Form PTO-1449, no representation is intended as to the relative importance of any portion of the references. Furthermore, such citation is not a representation that the listed references have effective dates early enough to be "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. Section 102 or Section 103. Applicants expressly reserve the right to establish that the aforesaid references are not prior art, and/or are not art that is analogous or relevant to the claimed invention.

4-1

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed:

before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)

Please charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment in connection with this communication to Deposit Account No. 13-2490. A duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed for this purpose.

Date: April 28, 2000

Telephone: 312-913-0001 Facsimile: 312-913-0002 Respectfully submitted,

John J. McDonnell Reg. No. 26,949

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